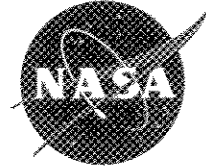


National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
**Headquarters**  
Washington, DC 20546-0001



October 26, 2010

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at an STS-133 Post-Launch Reception/Dinner hosted by Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne on November 1, 2010

On November 1, 2010, NASA invitees, accompanied by a spouse or guest, may attend a post-launch reception/dinner sponsored by Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne (PWR) at the Hilton Oceanfront Hotel in Cocoa Beach, Florida, from 5:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. The purpose of the event is to celebrate the STS-133 launch. The event will provide NASA employees the opportunity to discuss the mission, the shuttle program, and other NASA space programs with other people who are interested in NASA's mission and programs.

This event will be a widely-attended gathering of approximately 300 representatives of Congress, the aerospace industry, and NASA and other government agencies. Food and refreshments will be served at a cost of approximately \$35 per person. I find that the reception meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(2). I have determined that attendance at the above mentioned reception is in the interest of the agency because it will further agency programs and operations.

Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect PWR, including NASA employees in non-career positions who are required to sign the ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490, may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event for themselves and accompanying guests.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect PWR, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(3)(i), regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

*Kathleen T. Spear*

*for* Adam F. Greenstone